Ashford Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. P.O. Box 1 Ashford, Connecticut 06278

3/17/2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish to respectfully express my support of House Bill #5542.

The Ashford Volunteer Fire Department is responsible for EMS as well as fire protection in our town, as well as Eastford, CT and other mutual aid communities. Our Primary Service Area consists of approximately 6,000 permanent residents and 2,000 seasonal residents. Our mutual aid area, including UConn, is over 30,000 for most of the year.

I agree with the language concerning recommendation 5. This bill would provide a mechanism to petition DPH when EMS services are not meeting established program goals. Continued non- compliant services are not in the public's best interest.

Please proceed with this bill, as it is in the best interests of public safety.

Sincerely,

Wayne C. Fletcher Chief, Ashford Volunteer Fire Department

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cc: Chief Wayne Fletcher, Ashford Vol. Fire Dept.